

Cam Gordon

City Council Member Second Ward

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Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may call 311 or 612-673-3000. TTY users may call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood, 2-25-13

Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours: Pratt School, March 19th, 9:30-11am

Items:

- 1) Freeway Sound Wall Meeting
- 2) Reminder: Free Tax Help
- 3) Stadium Good Neighbor Fund
- 4) Building Energy Disclosure Ordinance Passes
- 5) Small Business Training Opportunity
- 6) Minneapolis Receives Robert Wood Johnson Award
- 7) Urban Scholar Program
- 8) Single Stream Increasing Recycling Rate
- 9) Openings on Boards and Commissions
- 1) URS, the consultant hired by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to assess the impact of the new sound wall on the west side of I-94, has concluded that the new wall has created an average 4.3 decibel increase in noise for 222 homes to the east of I-94. MnDOT has scheduled another neighborhood meeting to discuss next steps for dealing with this impact on **Tuesday**, **March 5**th, from 6-7:30pm, at Saint Frances Cabrini Church, 1500 SE Franklin Ave.
- 2) A nonprofit called AccountAbility Minnesota is making available free tax and financial services for low- and moderate-income people in the Twin Cities area. People in Minneapolis may sign up for tax clinics at East Side Neighborhood Services, 1700 2nd St NE, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:45pm and Saturdays at 9am. Individuals who make \$30,000 or less per year and families that make \$50,000 or less per year are eligible. For questions or more information, go to www.accountabilitymn.org or call 651-287-0187.
- 3) The U of M Stadium Area Advisory Group is now inviting applications for grants from the 2013 Good Neighbor Fund. Grant applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on March 1, 2013. You will find the Request for Applications and Application Form at http://www.community.umn.edu/gnf. In 2013, a total of \$47,500 will be available for grants for projects which take place in and benefit the area impacted by the University's on campus football stadium. Eligible applicants are the organizations that are represented on the Stadium Area Advisory Group. Questions are welcome via email to gnfund@umn.edu; or phone at (612) 624-6504.
- The Council has unanimously passed the new building energy disclosure ordinance that will require all City and other public buildings over 25,000 square feet and eventually all commercial buildings over 50,000 square feet to disclose the energy performance of each building, as rated by the EPA's Portfolio Manager program.
- For the third year, the Minneapolis office of the Small Business Administration has been selected to offer a free intensive training course to area businesses. E200 Emerging Leaders is an intensive training initiative to accelerate growth of high potential small businesses located in America's cities. Developed by the U.S. Small Business Administration, e200 offers qualified business owners powerful benefits including innovative strategies to grow, acquire financing, access new markets and leverage networking. The e200 training is open to small businesses located in the City of Minneapolis or City of Saint Paul and surrounding suburbs with annual revenues between \$400,000 to \$10 million that have been in business for at least three years. This training is not for start-up businesses. The only costs are your time and commitment to complete the curriculum. Anticipate 100 hours of combined classroom, homework and peer-to-peer mentoring. To request a letter of interest form, contact Cindy Collett at 612-370-2312 (Cynthia.Collett@sba.gov).

- 6) The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has awarded Minneapolis their inaugural Roadmaps to Health prize. This prize celebrates Minneapolis' community-wide efforts to promote a culture of health. Minneapolis is one of only six cities to receive this prestigious award, which comes with a cash prize of \$25,000. The award honors the City for work led by the Minneapolis Health Department, including:
 - Increasing access to healthy foods, opportunities for physical activity, and smoke-free living. This includes
 all of the work of Homegrown Minneapolis; increasing the variety, quality and affordability of fruits and
 vegetables at 37 corner stores; creating healthier, more active work environments at 225 worksites; and
 instituting a new smoke-free building policy at Riverside Plaza in Ward 2, home to over 5,000 people (many
 of them children).
 - Connecting clinics and communities to prevent chronic disease. The Health Department worked to improve
 patient care at clinics affecting 60,000 patients, to ensure that patients receive regular assessments of risk
 factors like body mass index, nutrition, physical activity, and tobacco and alcohol use. After assessments,
 patients are now being referred to effective clinic- and community-based resources.
 - Making Minneapolis a leader on bicycling. This includes investments in bicycling infrastructure like bike lanes and trails, the Midtown Greenway, Nice Ride, the Midtown Bike Walk Center, Venture North Bike Walk Coffee Shop, and Spokes Bike Center. In addition, the Health Department is leading a conversation about an exciting new Northside Greenway.
 - Closing the educational achievement gap. The Northside Achievement Zone works with more than 50 organizations, including the City, to improve educational outcomes for kids on the northside, to ensure that all youth are college ready when they graduate from high school. To date, 166 families with 450 children have enrolled, with 144 families expected to join by the end of 2013.

I'm proud to say that my office has been very involved with nearly all aspects of this work. I serve on the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council, helped lead Homegrown Phase II, and authored most of the Homegrown legislation that has passed to date. I also pushed for the strong Staple Foods ordinance that provided a foundation for the healthy corner stores work the Health Department has done. My Policy Aide serves on the Community Leadership Team that overseees the State and Federal grant programs that have funded most of these interventions, has helped push for progress on bicycling policy as the Council's representative on the Bicycle Advisory Committee, and attended the local meeting with representatives of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation about this award. Ward 2 is home to many of the residential buildings that have gone smoke free, including Riverside Plaza and Glendale Townhomes.

- The City of Minneapolis is once again offering an internship program for college students interested in public service careers. The City is now accepting applications for the 2013 Urban Scholars program, which aims to help young people from diverse backgrounds build their skills for the future, with a focus on careers in public service. Interested students should apply online by Monday, March 25 at www.minneapolismn.gov/jobs/jobs before. Students who are enrolled and in good standing at a two- or four-year college or university are eligible to apply. They must also be a permanent resident of Minneapolis, although they can be attending a school anywhere, not just in Minnesota. The 12week program is a full-time paid internship experience that runs from May 20 - Aug. 9. Urban Scholars will work in a City of Minneapolis department and also complete a team-based community project that will be presented to government and community stakeholders. The Urban Scholars Internship and Leadership Development Program is one component of the One Minneapolis Equity in Employment initiative, which aims to close the employment gap in a city and metro area that suffers from one of the highest disparities between white and non-white unemployment in the country. While the City's overall unemployment rate is 5 percent, unemployment among African Americans in Minneapolis is at 18 percent, and the unemployment rate for American Indians is 25 percent. Last year, eight Urban Scholars were chosen from more than 100 applicants. The students selected worked in key areas of City government, and in the long run, the City hopes to develop a group of young talent who can begin careers in public service, and someday be the next generation of City leaders. The eight scholars were all Minneapolis residents, who were attending colleges across the country. For more information, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/civilrights/one/urbanscholars.
- 8) Minneapolis residents have dramatically increased the amount we recycle, now that one-sort recycling is rolling out across the city. Results are in for the first six weeks of one-sort recycling: the four collection routes that switched to one-sort last fall show a 63% increase in recycling over the same period a year ago, when they still used the older multi-sort process. That's 396 more tons of waste recycled. One-sort recycling, where customers combine their glass, plastic, paper, aluminum and cardboard into one container when putting them out for collection, began in the fall for 30,000 Minneapolis residential recycling customers. The other 80,000 households will roll into the program this coming spring and summer. Crews drop off new blue carts for each residential customer, and as soon as they have the cart, they can start using it for one-sort recycling. By making it easier for folks who don't use the multi-sort recycling system at all, or for those who don't recycle as much as they could, the City hopes to double the 2012 recycling rate by 2015. Although residents using one sort no longer need to separately bag their recyclables, they need to make especially sure they recycle properly. Proper recycling will keep the materials valuable; it is important to rinse recyclables and not to mix in garbage or other materials such as yard waste, Styrofoam, plastic foam or plastic bags.
- 9) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Police Conduct Oversight Commission, Police Conduct Review Panel, and Mpls Telecommunications Network. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov.